

Appl. No. : 09/673,161
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I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listed below are the changes made to the claims, in which the insertions are underlined. Claims 1-23 have been cancelled. Claim 24 has been amended. Claims 25-46 remain as previously pending. Claims 47-52 are newly added claims.

Please amend the following claim as follows:

1.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method of manipulating electronically generated messages belonging to at least two of the following message types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS, voice mail; comprising handling the electronically generated messages using a single messaging application, wherein said single messaging application is run by the same device on which the messages are displayed.

25. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 24 wherein the single messaging application handles attributes of messages, these attributes being shared by all of the message types.

26. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 25 wherein the single messaging application invokes or applies operations to the attributes of the messages, these operations being applicable to all of the message types which are capable of being manipulated by the single messaging application.

27. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 26 wherein the messaging application interfaces with one or more databases of loadable software code modules relating to at least one of message type specific attributes and operations.

28. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 27, wherein a new messaging type can be dynamically added to a system whilst the system is fully operational by adding new loadable software code modules to one or more databases.

29. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 26 wherein all user interface code is accessed through a database using loadable software code modules.

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30. **(Original)** A software program for manipulating messages of a given type, comprising loadable software code modules capable of interfacing with a single messaging application, the loadable software code modules relating to at least one of message type specific attributes and operations and the single messaging application being operable to manipulate electronically generated messages belonging to at least two of the following messages types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS and voice mail.

31. **(Original)** The software program as claimed in Claim 30 wherein the software program is a dynamically loadable plug-in to the single messaging application.

32. **(Original)** The software program as claimed in Claim 30 wherein each loadable software code module is individually capable of enabling the execution of one or more tasks including:

- a) Reporting to the single messaging application functional capabilities of one or more loadable software code modules;
- b) Supplying text for on-screen menus;
- c) Creating, editing, displaying messages;
- d) Converting messages to be sent by the application to a protocol and format required by an external recipient and a conversion of messages received by the application to a protocol and format required by the single messaging application.

33. **(Original)** The software program as claimed in Claim 32 wherein the loadable software code is object oriented code which creates real objects to execute a task.

34. **(Original)** A software program messaging application capable of manipulating electronically generated messages belonging to at least two of the following messages types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS, and voice mail.

35. **(Original)** A computer operating system comprising a single messaging application operable to handle at least two of the following messages types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS, and voice mail.

36. **(Original)** An operating system operable in conjunction with a software program for manipulating messages of a given type, comprising loadable software code modules capable of interfacing with a single messaging application, the loadable

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software code modules relating to at least one of message type specific attributes and operations and the single messaging application being operable to manipulate electronically generated messages belonging to at least two of the following message types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS and voice mail.

37. (Original) A method of manipulating electronically generated messages using a messaging application, wherein the messaging application interfaces with several databases, each having loadable software code modules, each database individually providing code modules relevant to the execution of one or more tasks including:

- a) Reporting to the messaging application functional capabilities of one or more loadable software code modules;
- b) Supplying text for on-screen menus;
- c) Creating, editing, displaying messages;
- d) Converting messages to be sent by the application to a protocol and format required by an external recipient and a conversion of messages received by the application to a protocol and format required by the messaging application.

38. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 37, wherein appropriate software code modules are loaded only when required by the messaging application.

39. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 37 wherein the messaging application can handle at least two of the following messages types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS, voice mail.

40. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 39 wherein code to manipulate each message type is accessed using several databases, each having loadable software code modules, each database individually providing code modules relevant to the execution of one or more of said tasks.

41. (Original) The method of manipulating electronically generated messages of Claim 40 wherein the application can be enhanced to manipulate a new messaging type without re-compilation, by adding loadable software code modules to

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one or more databases with which the application can interface, each database providing code modules relevant to the execution of one or more of said tasks.

42. **(Original)** A software program for manipulating messages of a given type, comprising one or more databases capable of interfacing with a single messaging application, the one or more databases providing registered information about installed loadable software code modules relating to at least one of message type specific attributes and operations, each database individually providing code modules relevant to the execution of one or more tasks including:

- a) Reporting to the single messaging application functional capabilities of one or more loadable software code modules;
- b) Supplying text for on-screen menus;
- c) Creating, editing, displaying messages;
- d) Converting messages to be sent by the application to a protocol and format required by an external recipient and a conversion of messages received by the application to a protocol and format required by the single messaging application.

43. **(Original)** The software program as claimed in Claim 42 being a dynamically loadable plug-in to the messaging application.

44. **(Original)** The software program as claimed in Claim 43 wherein the loadable software code is object oriented code which creates real objects to execute a task.

45. **(Original)** An electronic communications apparatus programmed to perform a method of manipulating electronically generated messages belonging to at least two of the following messages types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS, voice mail; comprising a single messaging application component handling the electronically generated messages.

46. **(Original)** An electronic communications apparatus programmed with a software program for manipulating messages of a given type, comprising loadable software code modules capable of interfacing with a single messaging application, the loadable software code modules relating to at least one of message type specific attributes and operations and the single messaging application being operable to

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manipulate electronically generated messages belonging to at least two of the following messages types: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS and voice mail.

47. (New) A messaging application for manipulating messages, the messaging application comprising:

a plurality of modules, wherein each of the plurality of modules is configured to handle at least one of a plurality of message types;

a generic module configured to handle generic attributes of the plurality of message types; and

a first module configured to:

determine the message type;

correlate the generic module to the message type determined; and

correlate at least one of the plurality of modules with the message type determined, wherein the at least one of the plurality of modules is configured to handle the message type determined.

48. (New) The messaging application in Claim 47, wherein the plurality of message types includes at least two of the following: e-mail, fax, video, pager, SMS, and voice mail.

49. (New) The messaging application in Claim 47, wherein the first module is further configured to dynamically correlate at least one of the plurality of modules with the message type determined, wherein the at least one of the plurality of modules is configured to handle the message type determined.

50. (New) The messaging application in Claim 47, wherein at least one of the plurality of modules is configured to handle a different one of the plurality of message types than another of the plurality of modules.

51. (New) The messaging application in Claim 47, wherein the first module is further configured to determine the message type to be created.

52. (New) The messaging application in Claim 47, wherein the first module is further configured to determine the message type received.